



First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOCs) – November 9, 2015

FirstNet News

- Last week, FirstNet participated in the SAFECOM and National Council of Statewide Interoperability Coordinators meetings, New York State Association of Chiefs of Police Board of Governors Meeting, Ohio NENA/APCO State Chapter Meeting, and Wyoming Governors Fourth Annual Broadband Summit.
- FirstNet recently added two new members to the Tribal Outreach Team (please see the [blog](#) announcement). We are very pleased to have Adam Geisler and Margaret Muhr on the team. Last week, the Tribal team provided a brief overview of FirstNet at the White House Tribal Nations Conference, the USDA/Choctaw Nation Promise Zone Workshop, the BIA Tribal Assistance Coordination Group Workshop, and at a BIA tribal leaders listening session on challenges with broadband deployment in Indian Country.
- Last week, the FirstNet Federal team conducted a consultation meeting with the combined Department of Defense Public Safety Communications Working Group and the Emergency Management Working Group.
- The FirstNet Board meetings will be held December 8-9 in Houston, Texas. The PSAC meeting will follow, with an open public session the afternoon of December 9 and a closed session the morning of December 10. The Board agenda and webcast details will be posted on the [FirstNet website](#).

News from the PSAC, States, and Territories

- FirstNet has now received 54 of 56 state and territory data submissions, as well as seven data submissions from federal agencies. The surveys represented 11,000+ agencies and about 1.5M personnel. We have been working to analyze the 4,000+ files for consistency, discrepancies, and gaps and have held calls with the states and territories to validate their data.
- The full PSAC had a webinar on November 2 to discuss comments and feedback on the final task team deliverables for priority and preemption, public safety grade, and user equipment prior to formal submission to FirstNet. The PSAC approved the executive summary and supporting documents for submission to FirstNet.

Media Watch

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Traditional Media

Media coverage this week highlighted the NPSTC report on local control to the PSAC, Canada's Public Safety Broadband Network, and FirstNet new hires on the Tribal outreach team, as well as the FirstNet letter from FirstNet CEO, Mike Poth, to the Governors. The trade publication "Fierce Wireless" published its feature story on FirstNet based on interviews with the Boulder leadership team.

Radio Resource/Mission Critical: NPSTC Presents Local Control Report to PSAC for FirstNet Consideration

<http://www.mccmag.com/News/NewsDetails/NewsID/13597>

The National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) presented its latest report and recommendations on local control to the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) for consideration by the First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet).

Urgent Communications: Global Marketplace Critical To Success Of Public-Safety Broadband Initiatives

<http://urgentcomm.com/blog/global-marketplace-critical-success-public-safety-broadband-initiatives>

Indeed, it was a struggle when public-safety LTE largely was a U.S.-only effort in the wake of the FirstNet initiative. But after the TETRA community expressed interest in looking at LTE as its next-generation technology and countries like the United Kingdom proclaimed it would move to public-safety LTE in 2016, momentum within 3GPP picked up noticeably. Today, we supposedly are less than a year away from 3GPP approving an LTE standard that will include most of the features and functionality that public-safety officials have wanted.

Fierce Wireless: FirstNet Pushes To Keep Pace With LTE - And On Top Of 5G Development

<http://www.fiercewireless.com/story/firstnet-pushes-keep-pace-lte-and-top-5g-development/2015-11-02>

The First Responder Network Authority has traveled a long way toward getting its public-safety, interoperable broadband network up and running. And as FirstNet works to release its final Request for Proposals by the end of this year, attention will soon turn to how the organization plans to roll out its LTE network for U.S. public-safety workers, and how it will keep that network up to date with changing standards and devices. According to CTO Jeff Bratcher, FirstNet's network will be on-board with the latest LTE innovations from the outset, accommodating present standards and anticipating future innovations from the nation's commercial carriers.

REMI Network News - Canada: Public Safety Network Has Spectrum But No Funds

<https://www.reminetwork.com/articles/public-safety-network-has-spectrum-but-no-funds/>

Emergency responders in Canada and the United States have been given exclusive access to 20 megahertz (MHz) of spectrum that formerly carried analog television signals. As yet, though, Canadian proponents have few committed resources to kick-start the proposed public safety broadband network, whereas their American counterparts have been

promised USD \$7 billion (CAD \$9.24 billion).... Looking south of the border, plans for the ambitious First Responder Network Authority, known as FirstNet, arise from the World Trade Center disaster and subsequent recommendations of the U.S. government's 911 Commission.

TR Daily: FirstNet Hires Tribal Liaisons

The First Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) has hired two regional tribal government liaisons. Margaret Muhr is a member of the Citizen Potawatomi Nation in Oklahoma and previously was director-emergency services for the Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians in California. She will be the FirstNet principal point of contact for tribes in regions I-VIII. Adam Geisler is a member of the La Jolla Band of Luiseno Indians in California who has served in several leadership positions, including as tribal council secretary. He will be the FirstNet principal point of contact for tribes in regions IX and X.

Web and Social Media

FirstNet continued to be an active topic on social media this week. Twitter and Linked In gained approximately 25 new followers, which is about the weekly average. Twitter now has 2,854 followers; LinkedIn has 1,085 users; YouTube has 170 subscribers and Google+ remains at 57 users. This week, we posted three new blog entries. Features included a "Big Data" meeting focused on public safety, the addition of two new members of the User Advocacy team, and a recap of the Pennsylvania initial state consultation. All blog posts can also be accessed through the FirstNet blog landing page at:

www.firstnet.gov/newsroom/blog.